

What is claimed is:

1. A software program running on a content server computer having access to a content repository, the program providing instructions for one or more processors of the server computer to perform the steps of:
 - receiving a content retrieval request in the form of a digital data representation of at least one physical feature of the requested content and captured from the document by a data capture device;
 - parsing the data to identify the content from the digital data representation;
 - retrieving the content from the content repository;
 - comparing the content retrieved to the at least one physical feature of the content requested;
 - extracting the content requested from the content retrieved; and
 - responding to the content retrieval request.
2. The software program of Claim 1, wherein the data capture device includes an OCR wand.
3. The software program of Claim 1, wherein the content is unencoded with any document identifier other than physical features of the content including the at least one physical feature captured with the data capture device.
4. The software program of Claim 1, wherein the content of the content repository is indexed according to physical features of the content.
5. A method of retrieving content from a content repository, comprising the operations:
 - capturing at least one physical feature of a requested content with a data capture device;
 - uploading a digital representation of the at least one physical feature of the requested content to a personal computing device;

sending a request over a network to a content server having access to a content repository, which content server retrieves the content from the content repository; and

receiving a response from the server including the requested content.

6. The method of Claim 5, wherein the data capture device includes an OCR wand.

7. The method of Claim 5, wherein the content is unencoded with any document identifier other than physical features of the content including the at least one physical feature captured with the data capture device.

8. The method of Claim 5, wherein the content of the content repository is indexed according to physical features of the content.

9. A software program running on a personal computing device having access to a network, the program providing instructions for one or more processors of the personal computing device to perform the steps of:

uploading a digital representation of at least one physical feature of a requested content from a data capture device;

sending a request over a network to a content server having access to a content repository, which content server retrieves the content from the content repository; and

receiving a response from the server including the requested content.

10. The software program of Claim 9, wherein the data capture device includes an OCR wand.

11. The software program of Claim 9, wherein the content is unencoded with any document identifier other than physical features of the content including the at least one physical feature captured with the data capture device.

12. The software program of Claim 9, wherein the content of the content repository is indexed according to physical features of the content.

13. A method of storing and indexing a content repository, comprising the operations:

- indexing content according to physical features of the content; and
- storing the content in the content repository, wherein the content is unencoded with any document identifier other than the physical features of the content.

14. A method of retrieving content from a content repository, comprising the operations:

- receiving a content retrieval request in the form of a digital data representation of at least one physical feature of the requested content and captured from the document by a data capture device;
- parsing the data to identify the content from the digital data representation;
- retrieving the content from the content repository;
- comparing the content retrieved to the at least one physical feature of the content requested;
- extracting the content requested from the content retrieved; and
- responding to the content retrieval request.

15. The method of Claim 14, wherein the data capture device includes an OCR wand.

16. The method of Claim 14, wherein the content is unencoded with any document identifier other than physical features of the content including the at least one physical feature captured with the data capture device.

17. The method of Claim 14, wherein the content of the content repository is indexed according to physical features of the content.